



*SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PRESIDIO
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN*

*Maintaining a Rich Tapestry of Natural and
Historic Landscapes at the Golden Gate*

Summer 1999



THE NATIONAL PARK AT SAN FRANCISCO'S DOORSTEP

The Presidio of San Francisco is one of the jewels in America's national park system. A former military post dating back to 1776, its stately buildings, fog-shrouded forests, glorious fields of native wildflowers and dramatic views of the Golden Gate have captured the hearts of Bay Area residents and visitors from around the world.

The Presidio's mature stands of eucalyptus, Monterey cypress and Monterey pine are one of San Francisco's scenic highlights. Planted a century ago as an Army beautification project, they offer the promise of solitude, a picnic in dappled shade, a morning jog or quiet walk down curving forest aisles. The beauty and character of the Presidio's designed landscapes are significant features of this historic landmark. The Presidio also shelters remnants of San Francisco's natural heritage—communities of native plants, rare and endangered species, important wildlife habitat and the last free-flowing stream in the city.

PARTNERS IN RESTORATION

Today, many trees in the century-old forest are nearing the end of their lifespans and will require extensive management to become sustainable. Ornamental landscape plantings are overgrown and need revitalization. And, years of human use and the introduction of plants from other parts of the world threaten the fragile native habitats that once thrived here.

To ensure that the Presidio's rich landscape and native habitats will survive and flourish, the National Park Service (NPS), in partnership with the Presidio Trust and the Golden Gate National Parks Association, has prepared a draft vegetation management plan.

The plan proposes a variety of restoration activities throughout the Presidio and recommends that changes be made gradually over the next several decades so that visual impacts of rehabilitation are minimized as much as possible.

Members of the public are encouraged to review this summary of the proposed plan and comment on the recommendations it contains. For more detailed information, review the *Draft Vegetation Management Plan and Environmental Assessment*. Copies may be obtained by calling the National Park Service at 415.561.4930.

Over the next year, the NPS and Presidio Trust will finalize the vegetation management plan and develop an implementation framework with financial strategies. Following the plan's approval, they will begin efforts to ensure the long-term care and restoration of the Presidio's resources.

Throughout their endeavors, the NPS and Presidio Trust will work with the community to maintain the Presidio's beautiful park setting and protect its native habitats for generations to come.



EVOLUTION OF THE PRESIDIO LANDSCAPE

The original Presidio landscape was a mosaic of dunes, marshes, meadows, creekside woodlands, chaparral and sparse shrublands. Its beaches and dunes supported a diverse array of wildflowers, shrubs and grasses, and a rich, 180-acre tidal marsh flourished in low-lying areas along the bay. Rolling hills and coastal serpentine bluffs were principally covered with grasses and low-growing woody plants. Native trees, primarily oaks, bays and willows, grew in the valleys and along lakes and creeks.

Long before Europeans came, Native Americans were in the area, gathering reeds for shelter and basketmaking, acorns in the riparian oak woods and shellfish along the shore. In the process of colonization, Spanish soldiers and settlers introduced annual grasses, cut trees and brush along the water for firewood and brought cattle and horses that grazed the land.

ARMY PLANS TAKE HOLD

With the advent of the Civil War, the Army fortified its defenses at the Golden Gate and the Presidio was reshaped into a conventional Victorian-era Army post, complete with a central parade ground, rows of enlisted men's barracks and a separate "officer's row." The Army planted ornamental trees and flower beds, landscaped the main entrance to the parade ground and lined the roads and paths with lacquered cannon balls. Despite various landscaping improvements, U.S. soldiers stationed here found their post to be a barren, bleak and windswept place.

In 1883, the Army initiated ambitious plans that would transform the Presidio into a parklike and forested reserve. Developed by Major William A. Jones, the 1883 "Plan for the Cultivation of Trees upon the Presidio Reservation" followed in many ways the design for Golden Gate Park and was

influenced by noted landscape architects Andrew Jackson Downing and Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed Central Park.

Jones was motivated by several factors: to provide shelter from the persistent winds of the Golden Gate; to stabilize blowing sand; to aesthetically civilize the site; and by doing so, impress residents that the Army was here to stay.

In celebration of California's first Arbor Day in 1886, school children planted about 3,000 tree slips that mining magnate Adolph Sutro had donated. In 1889, Congress appropriated \$60,000 to continue implementing the forestation plan. By the end of the century, nearly 450,000 trees, including eucalyptus raised in the Presidio's own nursery, had been planted, transforming the post's mostly open land into the forest setting that continues to the present day.



"The main idea is, to crown the ridges, border the boundary fences, and cover the areas of sand and marsh waste with a forest that will generally seem continuous, and thus appear immensely larger than it really is. By leaving the valleys uncovered or with a scattering fringe of trees along the streams, the contrast of height will be strengthened...in order to make the contrast from the city seem as great as possible, and indirectly accentuate the idea of the power of the government."

MAJOR W. A. JONES, U.S. ARMY ENGINEER, 1883



THE PROPOSED VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The proposed plan establishes three zones for the Presidio—native plant communities, the historic forest and landscape vegetation—and develops management strategies for each zone. Central to the plan is the development of sustainable and enduring vegetation that can be managed with less maintenance effort, more sensitivity to natural and cultural resources and increased use of natural processes, while preserving the urban forest.

Under the plan, a variety of native habitats will be enhanced and the overall acreage of native plant communities significantly enlarged. The habitats for 12 rare or endangered plant species still present on the Presidio, and re-introduced rare and uncommon plants once found in the Presidio, will be protected, restored and monitored. To maintain a strong sense of design in keeping with the Presidio's landmark status, the plan recommends restoring forest boundaries and scenic vistas, preserving key forest stands, converting the topped Monterey cypress along the southeastern border to lower-growing species, and rehabilitating designed landscapes.

THE PLAN AT A GLANCE

	<i>CURRENT CONDITIONS</i>	<i>PROPOSED PLAN</i>
Native Plant Communities	150 acres (10% of total) Remnants of San Francisco natural heritage, habitat for 12 rare and endangered plant species	420 acres (28% of total) Native plant communities protected and enhanced, new native plant communities established in area where encroaching forest and/or buildings are removed
Degraded Areas	255 acres (18% of total) Degraded native plant communities, forest expansion sites and overgrown viewpoints	0 acres Restored to native plant habitat, restored landscapes and viewpoints
Historic Forest	330 acres (22% of total) Many trees in decline, highly susceptible to breakage and damage from storms	300 acres (21% of total) Restored to external boundary, obscured views reclaimed, gradual regeneration with more diverse species
Landscape Vegetation	750 acres (50% of total) Needs revitalization and replanting to preserve historic character	765 acres (51% of total) Emphasis on preservation with some replacement using historically compatible, low maintenance landscaping; hazardous trees removed

PRESIDIO VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ZONING MAP

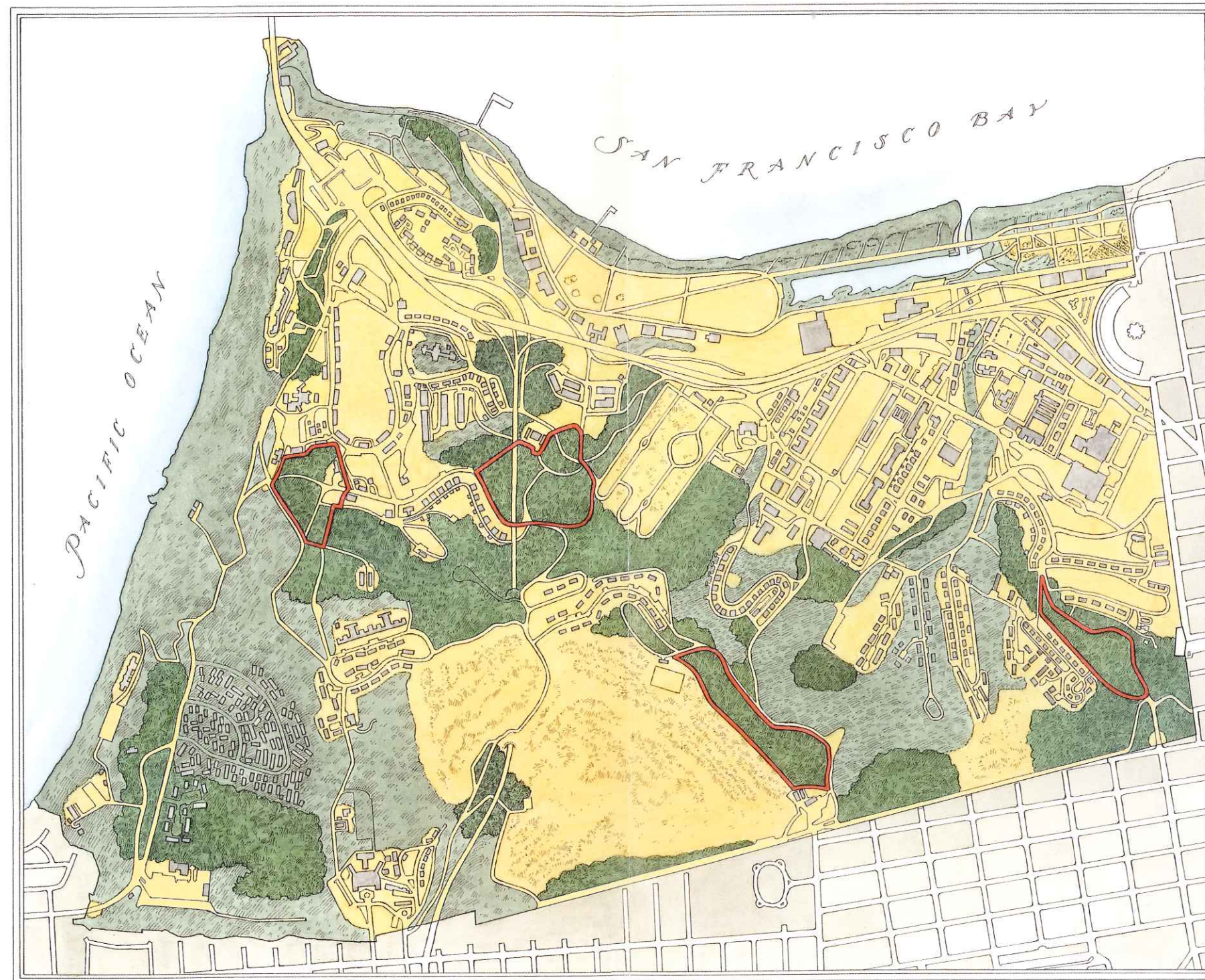
PLANNING PROCESS AND ALTERNATIVES

The planning process for the vegetation management plan involved research, site inventories and other technical studies as well as broad public involvement. In 1997, the NPS solicited comments on a list of issues and general guidelines from nearby neighbors, neighborhood organizations, current Presidio tenants, agencies and individuals. Public comments were received at two workshops as well as in writing.

Four alternative plans were formulated as a result of the public scoping process, information collected about the site, and analysis performed by staff and consultants. Details on each alternative are contained in the *Draft Presidio Vegetation Management Plan and Environmental Assessment*.

ALTERNATIVE 1: Proposed Actions. This alternative is composed of the management actions contained in the *Draft Presidio Vegetation Management Plan and Environmental Assessment*. It is the preferred alternative outlined in this plan summary.

ALTERNATIVE 2: No Action. This alternative continues existing management programs. Existing native plant habitat and endangered species protected from direct threats. Forest preserved and protected, but no rehabilitation undertaken. Hazardous trees near buildings removed.



MAP KEY

- Native Plant Communities
- Historic Forest
- Landscape Vegetation
- Historic Forest Stands

ALTERNATIVE 3: Selective Forest Cuts. An option for quickly rehabilitating the forest by systematically removing and replanting blocks of trees over a shorter time period than Alternative 1. Native plant communities and landscape treated as in Alternative 1.

ALTERNATIVE 4: Increase the Diversity of Tree Species. Rehabilitate the forest as described in Alternative 1, except consider many other tree species as replacement trees throughout the forest zone. Native plant communities and landscape treated as in Alternative 1.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ZONING MAP

The *Presidio Vegetation Management Plan* is organized in three broad vegetation categories, or zones, with management actions developed for each zone. These categories are:

- ~Native plant communities and areas where native vegetation will be restored
- ~The historic forest planted by the U.S. Army
- ~Landscape vegetation in and around building complexes, residential and recreation areas, viewsheds and along roadways

The *Vegetation Management Plan* also identifies four key historic forest stands that represent the unique character of the Presidio forest and outlines guidelines for their long-term care.



Trees of the Presidio

THE PRINCIPAL TREES IN THE PRESIDIO FOREST (BLUE GUM EUCALYPTUS, MONTEREY PINE AND MONTEREY CYPRESS) ARE WIDELY RECOGNIZED AND MUCH LOVED BY VISITORS TO THE FORMER POST. ALTHOUGH THE PINE AND CYPRESS ARE MONTEREY COUNTY TRANSPLANTS, THE EUCALYPTUS COMES ALL THE WAY FROM AUSTRALIA. THEIR PRESENCE IS A STATEMENT OF CALIFORNIA CULTURE AS DISTINCT AS THE PRESIDIO'S MISSION REVIVAL ARCHITECTURE.



NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES: AN URBAN OASIS

Native plant communities once thrived throughout San Francisco, but today the Presidio is one of the last remaining refuges for these remnants of our natural heritage. Located on the west- and north-facing coastal bluffs from Crissy Field to Baker Beach, around Mountain Lake and Inspiration Point and as scattered fragments in the southwestern and southeastern portions of the site, these communities provide a glimpse of what was once a rich and diverse natural landscape.

Thirteen native plant communities still exist at the Presidio, ranging from foredune (low perennial herbs and small shrubs) at Crissy Field and Baker Beach to serpentine grassland (purple needlegrass, foothill needlegrass, the Presidio clarkia and Marin dwarf flax) and Arroyo willow riparian forest along Lobos Creek and near Mountain Lake. Less than 10 percent of the Presidio supports indigenous species; most of these areas are separated from one another by development, forest or horticultural plantings, and have been invaded and ecologically degraded by nonnative plants such as Cape ivy.

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Key goals of the plan are to protect, restore and monitor existing native plant communities and enlarge the overall acreage of native plant communities within the Presidio. Threats to existing habitat, such as invasion by forest trees and aggressive exotic plants such as Cape ivy, visitor foot traffic and soil erosion, will be addressed. Methods to increase reproductive success will also be implemented.

The native habitat will be restored in areas where trees outside the historic forest zone are removed, where nonhistoric buildings are removed, vistas are cleared and other invasive nonnative vegetation is removed.

Proposed restoration sites include dunes at Crissy Field, Lobos Creek, Baker Beach, the area around Mountain Lake and near the former Public Health Service

Hospital, the Infantry Terrace area, Inspiration Point, Rob Hill, Presidio Hill, a portion of the Wherry housing site, the area near the World War II memorial and other coastal areas.

Several exciting restoration projects are already underway, including a community-based effort at Lobos Creek in the southwestern corner of the Presidio. Here, a living sand dune ecosystem was recreated on an abandoned, neglected site, restoring to San Francisco fields of dunes that were once covered with wildflowers, shrubs, grasses and trees. Visitors to the newly restored site will glimpse the richness of times past, enjoy the beauty of the dune habitats and study the never-ending changes of this vibrant natural system.



Rare Plants of the Presidio

WITH ITS UNIQUE CLIMATE AND SOIL CONDITIONS, THE PRESIDIO SUPPORTS AN UNUSUALLY HIGH NUMBER OF RARE PLANT SPECIES. SMALL POPULATIONS OF THE TWELVE RARE SPECIES LISTED BELOW ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE SITE, IN SUCH AREAS AS THE BAKER BEACH SAND TERRACES, THE SERPENTINE COASTAL BLUFFS AND THE GRASSLANDS EXTENDING FROM INSPIRATION POINT DOWN TO EL POLIN SPRING.

COAST ROCK CRESS

RAVEN'S MANZANITA

SAN FRANCISCO SPINEFLOWER

FRANCISCAN THISTLE

PRESIDIO CLARKIA

SAN FRANCISCO WALLFLOWER

DUNE GILIA

SAN FRANCISCO GUMPLANT

MARIN DWARF FLAX

SAN FRANCISCO LESSINGIA

SAN FRANCISCO CAMPION

SAN FRANCISCO OWL'S-CLOVER



THE HISTORIC FOREST: LANDMARK AT THE GOLDEN GATE

The Presidio's transformation from mostly open land into a richly forested setting was one of the Army's most impressive accomplishments in the area of landscape architecture. No other military installation in the nation has ever undertaken landscape planning on such a grand scale.

Today, five species make up 95 percent of the forest: Monterey cypress, Monterey pine, blue gum eucalyptus, blackwood acacia and coast redwood. Eucalyptus stands dominate, covering 42 percent of the forested acreage. After 80 years of age, large limbs of eucalyptus tend to break and the trees are more subject to blowing down. However, these trees can continue to live after 80 years and will resprout when they do break or fall. The lifespan of the Monterey pine is 80 to 100 years, while the life of the Monterey cypress ranges from 100 to 150 years or more.

Many of the trees are now entering a period of much slower growth and eventual decline. Breakage and tree mortality could substantially reduce the extent of the forest over the next 20 years. Damage from storms is also expected to accelerate as the trees weaken. The original management decisions to plant short-lived trees, limit thinning and not create canopy openings that would allow more natural regeneration all contribute to the decline in forest health.

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

To preserve the scenic beauty and park setting of the Presidio as well as maintain its historic character, the mature healthy trees will be preserved for as long as possible. Most of the forest will be managed in a way that promotes development of a more diversified biological community. This will reduce maintenance needs and management costs and enhance the area's value as a habitat for native species.

Safety will be a high priority and there will be an ongoing program to treat trees that present hazards to visitors or property. Natural events such as windstorms and natural regeneration will play a major role in forest management and will provide opportunities to initiate rehabilitation projects.

Over time, the forest will be returned to the boundaries originally planted by the Army a century ago. In addition, most of the forest will be incrementally changed to mimic a more natural forest by including:

- ~a range of ages from seedlings to older trees
- ~variations in the density of forested areas, and in tree spacing and planting patterns
- ~development of a mid- and understory of native grasses, herbs, shrubs and small trees
- ~removal of invasive nonnative vegetation
- ~some increase in species diversity
- ~conditions that encourage regeneration, such as grass cover, small openings providing more light and increased soil moisture



The Presidio's Historic Forest

THE PRESIDIO FOREST IS PERHAPS THE MOST DEFINING VISUAL FEATURE OF THE FORMER POST, ESTABLISHING ITS PARKLIKE SETTING BOTH FROM WITHIN AND FROM AFAR. THE ORIGINAL FOREST, AS DOCUMENTED BY AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS IN 1935, COVERED APPROXIMATELY 300 ACRES OF THE PRESIDIO, PRIMARILY ON RIDGES, ALONG BOUNDARIES AND AT ENTRANCES. TODAY, IT REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF THE PRESIDIO'S HISTORICAL LEGACY AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE SITE'S DESIGNATION AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK.



ENHANCING THE HISTORIC FOREST

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SOUTHEASTERN BOUNDARY

Monterey cypresses growing along the southeastern boundary of the Presidio have been regularly topped over the years by homeowners seeking to maintain views to the Golden Gate. These trees are now flat topped and intertwined with irregular side branches.

To honor the historic design and maintain residents' views, several lower-growing tree species will be evaluated and planted over time. Small irregularly shaped blocks of trees will be cut and replaced along this perimeter in a staggered pattern over a twenty-year period so that not all trees will mature at the same time and the visual impact of tree removal is minimized.

MAINTAINING VISTAS AND HISTORIC VIEWS

Over time, trees have been planted or naturally expanded into areas that were originally open, obscuring panoramic views of the coastline, Golden Gate Bridge, Marin Headlands, Alcatraz and other nearby landmarks. The plan calls for restoring various scenic viewpoints at Inspiration Point, Rob Hill and other locations by clearing nonnative plants and replanting with native, lower-growing vegetation.

HISTORIC FOREST STANDS

In a few key areas of the Presidio, the historical plantings have been kept evenly spaced, mowed and carefully maintained for decades. With a high canopy, little branching and no understory, these forest stands possess a special character that cannot be retained through rehabilitation or replanting. Even with some trees missing, these stands will retain their historic character for some time.

The historic stands include:

- ~ Eucalyptus stand bordered by Presidio Boulevard and Lover's Lane
- ~ Monterey cypress stand between Arguello Boulevard and the golf course
- ~ Northernmost Monterey cypress stand of the ridge windbreak system near the Old Cavalry Barracks and south of the stables
- ~ Monterey cypress, eucalyptus and Monterey pine stand at Kobbe Avenue adjacent to and east of Lincoln Boulevard and the World War II Memorial

These highly visible stands will be maintained as long as possible, with individual trees removed as they die or become diseased. Over time, the stands of Monterey cypress and pine will be replanted and new sprouts of eucalyptus will be trimmed to a single sprout.



*Regeneration with Age/Species Diversification –
Existing Conditions*



*Regeneration with Age/Species Diversification –
Initial Planting*



*Regeneration with Age/Species Diversification –
Intermediate Growth*



*Regeneration with Age/Species Diversification –
Established Growth*

A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

The visual impact of forest rehabilitation is an important issue, from both aesthetic and historical points of view. As a result, a series of photo simulations were prepared showing how various aspects of the rehabilitation might look over time. Shown above is the proposed regeneration approach in which the current forest is converted over several decades to stands of mixed ages and mixed species (with historic species remaining dominant). This strategy of species diversification would reduce maintenance, encourage natural regeneration and enhance wildlife habitat.

LANDSCAPE VEGETATION: CREATING A SENSE OF PLACE

The designed landscapes of the Presidio create a rich and unique sense of place that sharply contrasts with the forest and native plant communities. The ornamental plantings unify the various developed areas of the site and reinforce the Presidio's National Historic Landmark designation.

Among the designed landscapes are formal plantings around buildings at the Main Post, Fort Scott housing and other areas, the golf course and play fields, landscape screens, road corridors and camouflage around coastal fortifications. These ornamental plantings of shrubs, trees, lawns and ground covers provide visual accents for developed sites, vegetative screening and delineation of open spaces. Some plantings have been present for more than one hundred years. They may no longer be commercially available and are of special historic interest.

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Historic plantings and landscape character will be retained through careful, long-term maintenance. When replacement plants are needed, species selection will be based on several factors: an understanding of the historic design intent of a site, the species historically used, sustainability goals, potential impacts to native species from cross-pollination and any invasive tendencies of the species.

An evaluation and mapping project is being undertaken to document historic plant species. The data collected will be used to develop appropriate plant palettes reflecting the historic character of the site, to be used when replacement is necessary.

To the extent possible, plants will be selected that are disease and pest resistant, water efficient and/or drought tolerant, are adapted to the site's microclimate and require little ongoing maintenance. Natural processes such as composting and mulching will be used and the application of chemical fertilizers and pesticides will be minimized.

Also as part of the plan, hazardous trees will be identified, maintained and, when appropriate, replaced. Existing erosion and drainage problems will be corrected and groundwater percolation will be promoted by decompacting soil and using permeable ground cover.



Heritage Landmark Trees

HERITAGE LANDMARK TREES ARE TREES THAT HAVE COMMEMORATIVE VALUE, ARE OUTSTANDING BOTANICAL SPECIMENS, DISPLAY UNIQUE TRAITS OR SERVE A PARTICULAR AESTHETIC FUNCTION IN THE LANDSCAPE. PRESIDIO TREES WILL BE INVENTORIED TO IDENTIFY THOSE QUALIFYING AS HERITAGE TREES, AND SPECIAL TREATMENT STRATEGIES WILL BE DEVELOPED TO ENHANCE THEIR LONGEVITY. THE CENTENNIAL TREE, SHOWN ABOVE, WAS PLANTED BY POST TRADER ANGELO BERETTA AT THE PRESIDIO'S 1876 CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.



"The Presidio grounds are finely laid out, affording excellent promenades which are visited by many city residents. All about the residence quarters shade trees and cultivated flowers contribute to make the place beautiful. The business part [has] ornamental footwalks, marked by inviting resting places amid flowers and shrubs. The border lines are unique enough with their long rows of half-buried cannon balls."

ALTA CALIFORNIA, 1884



A LONG-TERM APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTATION

The Presidio is managed jointly by the NPS and the Presidio Trust, with the NPS managing the northern and western perimeter of the Presidio (primarily the coastal areas and Lobos Creek Valley) and the Presidio Trust managing the remaining 80 percent. Both agencies will consider adoption of the *Vegetation Management Plan* and jointly will be involved in its implementation. The Presidio Trust is a federal government corporation established by Congress to help preserve and enhance the Presidio and achieve financial self-sufficiency by 2013.

The fundamental concept guiding implementation is that effective rehabilitation should be carried out on a gradual and continuous basis. Recognizing the Presidio's landscape is a dynamic, living resource, the framework will be modified as new information becomes available. The plan, therefore, proposes a three-phased implementation strategy spanning decades.

THREE IMPLEMENTATION PHASES

PHASE 1 — PRE-IMPLEMENTATION: In this phase, efforts will focus on planning studies, data collection, soil testing, development of educational materials and completion of pilot projects. This phase will be conducted over a five-year period, beginning in 1999.

PHASE 2 — IMPLEMENTATION START-UP: The primary implementation phase will be conducted from 2004 through 2013. Major activities in this phase will include replanting and diversification of approximately seven to ten acres of forest stands every two to three years, conversion of selected forest areas outside the original boundary to native plant habitat and various landscape improvements.

PHASE 3 — FINAL IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE: Carried out over decades, this phase will include completion of major forest management and habitat restoration actions. It will also include more intensive

maintenance activities in all zones, monitoring of project results and continued invasive plant removal.

FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Actions recommended in the plan will be funded through a combination of public and private sources complemented by volunteer efforts. The Parks Association, a nonprofit membership organization, will assist with fundraising as well as support planning, interpretation and conservation projects in the Presidio and other park areas. As described on the inside back cover, the Parks Association has established a special endowment, the James R. Harvey Presidio Restoration Fund, to provide a vehicle for community members, foundations and corporations to contribute to the ongoing preservation and maintenance of the Presidio's vegetation and open space. The fold-out at right lists donors to the Fund.

*CONTRIBUTORS TO THE
JAMES R. HARVEY PRESIDIO RESTORATION FUND*

The Golden Gate National Parks Association gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, foundations and corporations who have generously contributed to the James R. Harvey Presidio Restoration Fund since its inception in 1996.

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San Francisco's Natural Heritage

SOME OF THE LAST UNDISTURBED NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITIES IN SAN FRANCISCO ARE FOUND ALONG THE COASTAL BLUFFS. THE PRESIDIO'S RICH BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED NATIONS, WHICH INCLUDED THE PRESIDIO WITHIN AN INTERNATIONAL BIOSPHERE RESERVE, ONE OF TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY IN THE WORLD.



TAKE PART IN THE PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS

Interested members of the public are encouraged to comment on proposed plans for managing the Presidio's vegetation. Study this document to gain an understanding of the proposed plan, review the *Draft Vegetation Management Plan and Environmental Assessment* if you need more detailed information and make your views known in writing or at future public meetings of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Advisory Commission and Presidio Trust.

To add your name to the mailing list to receive information about final changes to the plan or to request a free copy of the *Draft Vegetation Management Plan and Environmental Assessment*, call 415.561.4930.

Comments on the proposed plan should be sent to Presidio Vegetation Management Plan, National Park Service/Presidio Trust, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123. Comments can also be sent via e-mail to: presidioveg@nps.gov. Individuals on the mailing list will be notified about opportunities to present oral comments before the GGNRA Advisory Commission and Presidio Trust.

HELP RESTORE THE PRESIDIO

Community commitment and generosity are essential to the long-term care and restoration of the Presidio. Since 1994, the NPS and Parks Association have sponsored a variety of volunteer programs and funding opportunities to enable individuals to contribute to this magnificent park site.

The Presidio Park Stewards program engages volunteers in a variety of habitat restoration activities including curriculum-based programs for school groups; operation of a native plant nursery; hands-on site preparation and planting; and native habitat restoration, monitoring and maintenance.

The Presidio Park Stewards are successfully conducting restoration at sites including Lobos Creek dunes, north Baker Beach, the Public Health Services Hospital area, Rob Hill, Inspiration Point and Crissy Field. Over

the next several years, existing stewardship programs will be expanded to provide an opportunity for individuals to volunteer their time and talents at restoration sites identified in the vegetation management plan.

The Presidio native plant nursery, established with the assistance of AmeriCorps and the San Francisco Conservation Corps, produces thousands of plants each year, grown from locally collected seeds and cuttings to preserve the genetic integrity of the Presidio's native plant communities. The nursery will supply plants for the native plant community restoration and the forest rehabilitation efforts.

For additional information on volunteer opportunities at the Presidio, call the Golden Gate National Parks Association at 415.561.4755.



*THE JAMES R. HARVEY
PRESIDIO RESTORATION FUND*

A long-time champion of America's national parks, Jim Harvey was widely regarded for his vision, generosity and unwavering commitment to the Presidio. To honor his dedication to this special place, the Golden Gate National Parks Association created the James R. Harvey Presidio Restoration Fund.

Established in January 1996 through an initial endowment by Transamerica Foundation, the fund supports efforts by the National Park Service and the Presidio Trust to restore the Presidio forest, native plant communities, trails and open space. Community response to the fund has been overwhelming. To date, more than \$1 million has been contributed to endow vegetation management at the national parkland Jim cherished.

Gifts or bequests to this endowment fund are greatly needed and deeply appreciated. If you would like to discuss a donation to the park, please contact Dick Bunce, Director of Development for the Parks Association, at 415.561.3000.



PRESIDIO TRUST
34 GRAHAM STREET
P.O. BOX 29052
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94129



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
GGNRA
BUILDING 201, FORT MASON
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123



GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL
PARKS ASSOCIATION
BUILDING 201, FORT MASON
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123